

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5700

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, CN, OAU

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON COMOROS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FEBRUARY 4 LETTER FROM UGANDAN CHARGE
D'AFFAIRES TO SC PRESIDENT, DISTRIBUTED AS SC DOCUMENT S/11960,
SETTING FORTH OAU POSITION CONCERNING COMOROS:

QUOTE

I HAVE THE HONOUR, UPON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE CURRENT CHAIRMAN
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, TO TRANSMIT TO YOU
THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE
ON THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO HOLD A REFERENDUM
IN THE ISLAND OF MAYOTTE ON 8 FEBRUARY 1976.

"WITH REFERENCE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON FRANCE'S
PROPOSED REFERENDUM IN THE ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, I WISH TO CLARIFY
THE POSITION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ON THE MATTER:

"1. MAYOTTE ISLAND IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE COMOROS WHICH PROCLAIMED INDEPENDENCE IN JULY 1975.

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"2. THE PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE WAS UNANIMOUSLY
ACCLAIMED BY THE OAU WHICH ADMITTED THE REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS
AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION AND UNDERTOOK TO SUPPORT THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS IN ITS EFFORTS
TO SAFEGUARD ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

"3. ANY ATTEMPTS, THEREFORE, BY FRANCE TO CONDUCT ANY
REFERENDUM ON MAYOTTE ISLAND CONSTITUTES GROSS INTERFERENCE
IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AN INDEPENDENT OAU MEMBER STATE
AND MUST BE DEEMED AS AN ACT OF AGGRESSION.

"4. RECENT HISTORY HAS SHOWN FRENCH REFERENDA IN HER
COLONIAL TERRITORIES TO HAVE THE EFFECT OF PERPETUATING FRENCH
COLONIAL STATUS IN AFRICA. IT IS IN THE FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THIS
FACT THAT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION OF
THE COMOROS THROUGH THE REFERENDUM OF 22 DECEMBER 1974
TOTALLY REJECTED FRANCE'S MANOEUVRES ON THE ARCHIPELAGO
AND EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRED TO ACCEDE TO FULL INDEPENDENCE.

"5. ALREADY THE REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS IS FACING SERIOUS
DIFFICULTIES AS A RESULT OF FRANCE'S RETALIATORY MEASURES. ON
BEHALF OF THE OAU I CALL UPON FRANCE TO STOP THESE MALICIOUS
POLICIES TOWARDS THE REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS AND, I APPEAL
TO THE WORLD COMMUNITY TO ASSIST THE YOUNG REPUBLIC TO CON-
SOLIDATE HER HARD-WON INDEPENDENCE.

"THIS MESSAGE IS BEING COPIED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF
THE OAU FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBER STATES.

AL-HAJJI FIELD MARSHAL IDI AMIN DADA,
VC., DSO., MC.,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA AND
CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU"

I SHOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THIS MESSAGE BE CIRCULATED
AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

(SIGNED) H.E.L. ACEMAH
CHARGE D AFFAIRES, A.I.
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